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RICHMOND

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THAT HEINOUS CRIME IN HENRICO. THE VICTIM'S STATEMENT

THE ATROCITY REVEALED.

A Graphic Description The Neighborhood was Aroused Animal Passion Predominant.

THE GUN FIRED.—FEARFUL BRUTALITY.—AN OBJECT OF PITY.

No crime in recent years has attracted more attention, with the possible exception of the celebrated Lunenburg Case, than has the fiendish rape case of Henrico county.

Thinking that it would be well to further investigate the affair, on last Sunday afternoon, Editor John Mitchell, Jr., prepared his photographic outfit and with an easy, swinging gait went in the direction of Chelsea Hill, Henrico county.

As he ascended the hill, he enquired of a white man, who passed him, the direction to the Bowling Green Road. He told him to go straight ahead. He did this and after further inquiry, the Editor found himself for the first time in his life standing in the middle of that county thoroughfare.

A colored lady pointed out to him the house of Mrs. Keziah Banks. A knock on the door elicited no response. Then the Editor mastered the door to the next porch and still no response. He went around in the rear and saw a Jersey cow. A further glance disclosed the presence of three ladies. "Does Mrs. Keziah Banks live here?" "Yes, sir," responded a lady, who introduced herself as Mrs. Lucy O. Latina. "Aunt Keziah is in here. She has been living with us for years and we gave her that room for herself." Editor Mitchell introduced himself and she proceeded to give him all the information he desired.

IT WAS AWFUL.
"Oh," she said, "it was awful. We heard the noise out there and I came out. I told one of them to go to Aunt Keziah's door and arouse her. When the girl reached her door there, she found it open. I called Aunt Keziah and she answered down the road where she was struggling with that man."
The alarm was given and Mr. Board came out, and went over there. The white man was using terrible language, declaring that he would shoot any one who disturbed him. Finally the gun was fired and he arose and came running towards us, declaring that he would kill the one who fired that gun.

TERRIBLE PUNISHMENT.
Aunt Keziah was brought in and laid out on the floor. The print of his fingers and the bruises could be seen. Her face is scarred up now. She escorted the Editor to the kitchen room in the rear. There sat Aunt Keziah Banks.
"She has not been herself since," remarked Mrs. Latina. "She often sits down and cries about the way that villain treated her."

THE VICTIM'S STATEMENT.
In response to queries, she made the following statement: "My name is Keziah Banks. I am about 60 years of age. I have been married ever since long before the fall of Richmond. My husband's name is Wilson Banks. He is in the insane asylum at Petersburg and has been there about 9 years now. I have had only one child that lived and that died when it was six months old. I left my white folks soon after the fall of Richmond, and then lived in service with white folks on Church Hill. I lived with Mr. Isaac Austin before the war. He was my master. He is dead and my mistress is dead. One of my young masters is living just before you get to Chickahominy Swamp. He is living down there now."

THE BRUTE ATTACKED HER.
I went to Mr. Mildred's store and bought a pound of sugar and a loaf of bread and in coming back, this white fellow was standing down by the side of the fence and he jumped at me. He scared me almost to death. I was then in sight of home. When he jumped at me, he put his hands around my neck. I said, go away from me, what do you want? He said, I ain't going to let you alone. God damn you, I ain't going to let you alone. He told me he was going to have me this night, and I had just as well stop hollering.

STIFLED HER VOICE.
He kept his hand on my mouth and I struggled with his hand so that I could

get my breath. Then he threw me, stripped me in the road and accomplished his purpose as best he could for I was struggling with him all the time.

As to the bread and sugar, I never knew what became of that. I made what noise I could and persons came to my assistance. He told them to go away. He would knock their damn heads off. He scared them off and they ran back to get some one to make him let me alone.

A GUN MOVED HIM.
He never left me until a young white man came, a Mr. Tate, who shot a gun off. Timberlake then ran up the road and asked, 'Who shot that gun, God damn him, I am going to kill the one who shot that damn gun.' All before that time, he had me on the ground. He repeated that I might as well be quiet, and stop my damn fuss,—he was going to have it this night. I did not recognize him while he had me down there until they all caught him. When Timberlake ran them all to the house, then I had a chance to get up to the house and hobble into the house. He had weakened me down so, I had to lay down on the floor. I was so tired wrestling with him and trying to keep his hands off my mouth that I was completely worn down."

EVIDENCES OF THE STRUGGLE.
This ended her statement. Four scars on her face and cheek where she



MRS. KEZIAH BANKS.

Aged, about sixty years, criminally assaulted Saturday night, about 8:30 o'clock by Charles Timberlake (white) aged about twenty years, on the Bowling Green Road, Henrico county, Virginia. He was caught in the act by both white and colored citizens. The penalty for criminal assault or attempted criminal assault in Virginia is death. [From photograph taken by Editor Mitchell, August 17th, 1902, in the back-yard of victim's residence.]

friend's cruel finger-nails had been were unto witnesses of the truth of all that she had said. The crime was committed Saturday night, July 19th, 1902, at about 8:30 o'clock by Charles Timberlake, a white youth about 20 years of age. His parents reside about 1/2 mile from where Aunt Keziah Banks has her humble mansion.
The evidence against him is direct and conclusive and the question naturally arises whether or not this rape case, this assault upon this harmless, peaceable old woman will be winked at by those sworn to execute our laws.
The spot where the heinous crime was committed is not more than 50 yards from the unfortunate woman's gate, and can be plainly seen from her door-way.

Marriage.
GARRISON-KELLEY—The marriage of Mr. Lewis Garrison to Miss Eliza I. Kelley, will take place Thursday, Aug. 28th, at 2:30 o'clock, at the residence of her sister, 614 Harrison, St. Friends are invited. No cards.

Mrs. Nancy Anderson Gone on Before.

Mrs. Nancy Anderson, one of the most faithful Christian workers in the city of Richmond, entered into eternal rest Monday, August 11, 1902th, at 10 minutes past 4 p. m., after a most painful illness of eight weeks.

She underwent a delicate operation for a cancer on January 18th and never rallied from it sufficiently to gain any strength, and her intense suffering could only be relieved by morphine.

She had been a member of the First Baptist Church, Rev. W. T. Johnson, pastor, for over 35 years, and throughout that time labored unceasingly and zealously for the welfare and uplifting of the same.

Her funeral took place at the First Baptist Church Wednesday, August 13th at 4 p. m., Rev. Johnson officiating. He was assisted by Revs. W. H. Stokes, S. C. Burrell, T. H. Briggs, R. J. Bass and W. H. Camp.

Mrs. Anderson had been a member of Esther Council, 22, I. O. of St. Luke for 18 years.
She had been a member of Old Dominion Court since its organization. She was also a member of the Christian Helpers Union. The pall-bearers were: Messrs. R. T. Hill, Benjamin Jackson, James Twine, Daniel Holman, Henry Paul, James Tinsley and William Henry Austin.

—Rev. T. P. Harris of Michaux, Va., called on us.

The Society Met.

The Negro Industrial and Agricultural Society has been in session during the week at the Third St. A. M. E. Church. There was a large attendance of delegates. An effort is being made to raise (\$50,000) fifty thousand dollars to test the constitutionality of the new Virginia Constitution before the United States Supreme Court.

Over three thousand dollars have been collected from the people for this purpose. Mr. Jordan Thompson was elected president and Mr. James H. Hayes, secretary.

A Correction.

The gold medal given by the Cable Piano Co., for greatest improvement in music was won by Miss Nannie B. Taylor, daughter of R. Beecher Taylor instead of Miss Manrice Taylor. She was a pupil of Miss Nannie B. Jones' musical class, whose efficiency as a teacher has brought her many scholars.

—Miss Cynthia H. Edmondson of 406 Gilmer Street is in Washington, D. C., visiting her uncle, Mr. D. H. Evans.

—Mrs. J. O. Fisher of Philadelphia, has been the guest of her mother, Mrs. Aznes Johnson of 707 East Baker Street this city for the past two weeks. Left here Saturday, Aug. 16th for her home.

—Mrs. Rosa K. Jones has been spending the summer at Saratoga Springs, N. Y., and Long Branch, N. J.

—Miss Lucy Graham and Miss Emma F. Carter have left the city to visit relatives and friends in Cumberland County, Va.

On Tuesday, 26th inst., a picnic at Windfall Park will be given under the auspices of Mrs. Sarah A. Steward for the benefit of Leigh Street Methodist Church.

Abundance of refreshments at city prices. Admission 5 cts. The trip, which is a delightful one through the coal country, will cost 10 cts making 15c all.

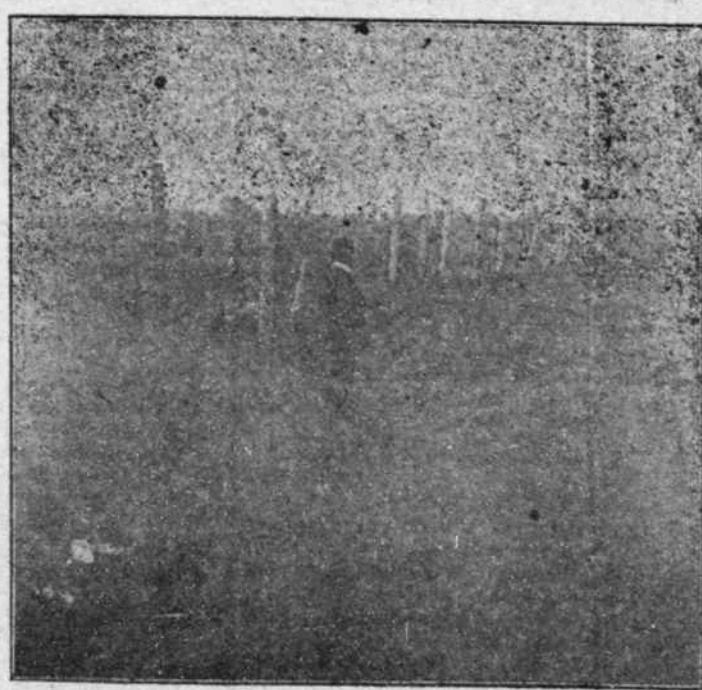
A small sum for the pleasure received in return. The church mentioned is in great distress and it is to be hoped that everybody will turn out to lend it a helping hand. You can go and return every hour during the day.



THE LYNCHING OF CHARLES CRAVEN.
Thursday afternoon, July 31, 1902 on the county road about half mile from Leesburg, Va.

"I'M INNOCENT. I DIDN'T KILL A WHITE MAN NAMED WILSON."
The last words of Craven before he was swung up by the mob. He was beaten on the way to his execution. When he uttered the last word Wilson, about a score of Fairfax county farmers pulled the rope that jerked his body into the air, and strangled him to death. Fifty rifles emptied their contents into his body, and streams of his life's blood trickled down his bare feet and flowed to the ground.

Only three of the guilty murderers have been indicted by the Grand Jury of Loudoun Co., Va.



THE SCENE OF THE OUTRAGE.

This is a correct picture of the scene of the outrage. Mr. H. J. Latina, the man in the picture, is standing on the exact spot where Charles Timberlake (white) dragged his victim and accomplished the outrage. The Bowling Green Road may be seen to the right. Charles Timberlake lives at the end of the road as shown in the picture. His house, however is not distinguishable in the distance. The spot shown is diagonally in front of Mr. H. J. Latina's property. [From photograph taken by Editor Mitchell August 17th, 1902.]

CRAVEN'S MURDERERS.

A Brief Sketch of the Lynching—Three of the Murderers Indicted.

"I'm innocent. I didn't kill a white man named Wilson."

These were the last words of Charles Craven, before he was lynched by a mob of white men, July 31st, 1902 at Leesburg, Va. Time has demonstrated that he told the truth and another fearful blunder has been added to the long list which will sooner or later confront the devotees of Judge Lynch.

PRESUMED GUILTY.

William H. Wilson, a farmer was found dead and all indications pointed to murder. Craven was presumed to have been guilty of the crime. With no other evidence, this presumption was changed to a conviction and he was hunted like a wild animal. Blood-hounds were brought to the neighborhood and bodies of armed men scoured two counties in the search for the hapless victim. He was finally captured and landed in the county jail at Leesburg, Va.

DISREGARDED PROTEST.

A mob disregarded the protests of some of the best citizens of Loudoun county, and it might be well to add that the mob was said to have been composed of some of the best citizens of Loudoun and Fairfax counties. Craven was dragged to the place of his execution. On the way there, he was beaten almost to death. Blow after blow was rained upon him, until it is said that he was almost unconscious when he reached the end of his journey.

The picture of the lynching which we present in this issue, was taken shortly after the mob left him, and is a mute witness to, of its murderous brutality.

LYNCHERS INDICTED.

The grand jury of Loudoun county has indicted only three of the lynchers. The members of the lynching party made no effort at concealment, and are known to the authorities.

Gov. Montague has been making vigorous efforts to apprehend those who so boldly and insolently set aside the laws of the state.

Lynchburg and Danville has been turned over to The American Beneficial Insurance Company.

Last Monday night was another stirring scene at Price's Hall. \$405.00 in cash was paid in stock. Throughout the entire State both town and country people are calling for stock. For the time being no more stock can be sold in Richmond since the Board desires to accommodate friends elsewhere desirous of being stockholders.

Fifty agents are now hard at work in the city of Richmond. So great has been the increase of work that the services of two extra clerks (Misses Eva Jonathan and Blanche E. Ans) have been employed, thus making six young ladies and two gentlemen who are hard at work at the Home Office.

Dr. Graham is on the field, the country is on fire. The Company is pleased to submit the following additional names to the excellent list of stockholders:

Willie H. James, Mary Carter, Chas. H. Holmes, Sarah Mitchell, John M. Mitchell, Joseph Mitchell, Edward Jones, Willie Mason, Lucy West, Lucy Spruick, Jas. W. Page Jr., Clarence H. Page, J. P. Graham, Alexander Brooks, Hannah A. Archer, Leroy D. Brown Jr., Eliza Young, Sallie E. Brown, Alice Jones, Clara Sheppard, John H. Nelson, Spencer Dance, W. R. Collins, Raymond S. Mosby, J. M. Garant, S. W. Ranb, Callie D. Brown, Mt. Nebo No. 4, Giles B. Jackson.

The Church Union Excursion a Success.

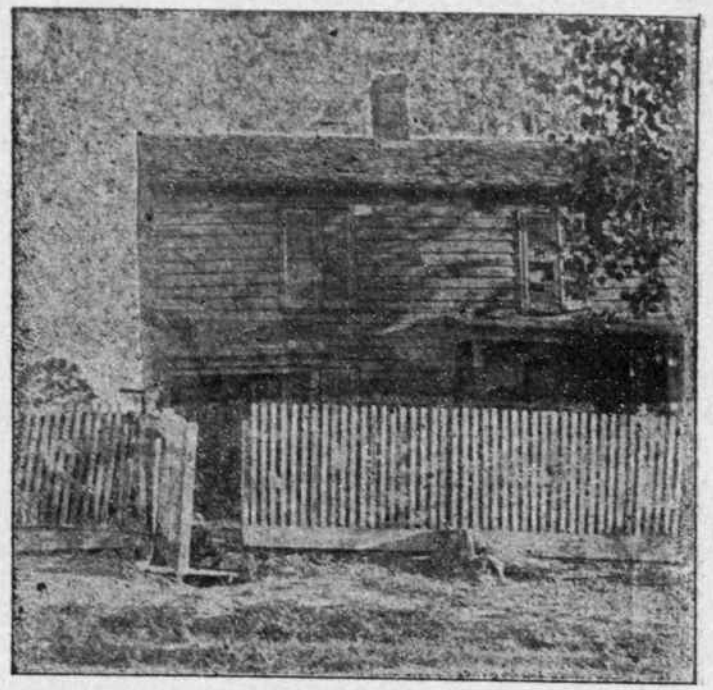
Monday, Aug. 18th, an excursion was given to Buckroe Beach via C. & O. R. R. by Revs. R. J. Bass and J. Andrew Bowler of Mt. Tabor and Mt. Olivet Churches.

A large interesting crowd filled 10 coaches which left the depot at 11 A. M. The train was in charge of conductor W. B. Hewlett whose courteous and efficient management added greatly to comfort of the excursionists. The ride was delightful not an unpleasant word was heard during the trip. The stay at the beach was charming. Leaving at 7 P. M., the excursion reached the city at 10 P. M.

Mr. W. E. Noble one of the committee was arrested upon reaching the city concerning some trouble that occurred upon an excursion given to Norfolk Sunday night, Aug. 18th. He being a committee on that excursion.

The affair had no connection with the excursion to Buckroe Beach.

Revs. Bass and Bowler, assisted by their faithful committee displayed much skill in the management of the excursion.



WHERE AUNT KEZIAH LIVES.

The gate of the residence of "Aunt" Keziah Banks opens into the Bowling Green Road. The end room is where the victim lives—Editor Mitchell unlatched the gate and knocked repeatedly to gain admission. After the outrage, she dragged herself inside of this room and laid on the bare floor, completely exhausted after the struggle with her assailant. [From photograph taken by Editor Mitchell, August 17th, 1902.]

NOTHING BUT THE AMERICAN.

Why is it so? Because it is already the largest Negro insurance company in the state of Virginia. It has caught the ear of universal approval, nothing like it has ever been started before. Just four weeks old and yet \$4,147.00 cash capital stock paid in and \$7,600.00 subscribed to; and the Board, through its Attorney, J. Thomas Hewin, has petitioned the court for an increase of \$10,000.00. The architect is getting ready to fit up the Company's Home Office, 618 North 2nd Street in first class style for immediate occupancy. Over 2,000 members have joined the company within three weeks. Two Branch Offices have been opened, one in Lynchburg and the other in Danville. Mr. Matthew W. Davis is the stirring manager of Lynchburg, Mr. W. A. Millner becomes the manager at Danville assisted by Mr. Stephen A. Parham. Mr. John W. Howard of Danville has been unanimously elected by the Board as General Organizer, and these two offices are now sending in new applications by scores. Very nearly all the insurance business in

From Pennsylvania.

McDONALD, Pa., Aug. 17, 1902.
Editor Richmond Planet,
Rev. Simpson of Pittsburgh preached at the First Baptist Church at 11 A. M., on Sabbath and gave the Lord's Supper at 3 P. M.

The members of the church are called to meet Monday night, to call a pastor. Prof. Charles Red and choir have been invited to Oakdale to sing at the grand rally of the M. E. Church at 2:30 P. M.

James Coley spent last Sunday in Pittsburgh with Miss Susie Arlison. Lucy Thornton, 20 years old of North Fanny Street had his leg broken in Nickle Plate Mine and was sent to the West Penn. Hospital.

The little son of Charles Red is confined to the bed with diphtheria and their many friends hope for his recovery soon. Mr. Eliza Anderson and wife left for their home down in the East and will return to Jumbo in the fall. We wish them a pleasant visit and hope to see them soon.